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## Investigation of Federal Research Outlays To Be Considered Tomorrow by House Panel

By a WALL STREET JOURNAL Staff Reporter  
WASHINGTON—Has Congress, perhaps beguiled by the fervor of Government science planners, been overly indulgent in providing funds for the swift and continuing rise in Federal research spending? How well can lawmakers evaluate the merit of a proposed study of the earth's gravity field, or a request for funds to try a new fuel mixture in an experimental atomic reactor? What's to prevent duplication of effort among the more than two score Government agencies that now administer Federal research dollars?

Apprehensions such as these, shared by many legislators from both parties, are to get an airing starting tomorrow at hearings before the House Rules Committee. Up for consideration will be a proposal to launch a full-dress investigation of Government-sponsored research programs.

Including proposed military outlays around \$7.5 billion, the Kennedy Administration is seeking nearly \$15 billion in research and development funds for the fiscal year that begins July 1. This is nearly double what was spent in these areas as recently as four years ago and will mean Government financing of research for close to 75% of all U.S. spending for research and development.

An Unusual Coalition  
Chief backing for the Congressional probe comes from an unusual coalition of Rules panel members. Among them the investigation proposal is the committee's staunchly conservative chairman, Rep. Smith (D., Va.), senior Republican, Rep. Brown of Ohio, and such liberal-leaning members as Rep. Bolling (D., Mo.) and Rep. Elliott (D., Ala.).

Committee members say they decided to call for such a study after wading through the maze of defense, space and science research spending requests channeled through the Rules unit on their way to the House floor for a vote. "With a closer look, I'm convinced we'll find that considerable sums are being siphoned off for projects that aren't essential. At the very least, I think we'll turn up numerous instances of overlapping between the various agencies," declares one Democratic proponent of the investigation.

The proposal calls for establishment of a special five-member committee to undertake a year-long study of all Federal research programs. The panel will dig outlays by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration for space exploration projects would be given particularly close scrutiny. Alabama's Rep. Elliott is in line to head the investigation, with other members to be appointed by House Speaker McCormack (D., Mass.).

Some Potential Opposition  
Whether the full House will assent to the investigation is an open question. Fierce opposition has arisen from the heads of a half-dozen House committees that currently oversee important segments of the overall research effort. These include Rep. Vinton (D., Ga.) of the Armed Services Committee, Rep. Holtfield (D., Calif.) of the Joint Atomic Energy Committee, Rep. Miller (D., Calif.) of the Space Committee, Rep. Harris (D., Ark.) of the Commerce Committee, and Rep. Dawson (D., Ill.) of the Government Operations Committee.

Their displeasure stems partly from a feeling the investigation would encroach on terri-

loy they consider reserved for their own units. "There's a lot of talk about eliminating duplication, but this new committee would only make for more by overlapping well-established responsibilities," asserts a ranking member of the Armed Services Committee.

Beyond these piques, however, critics of the investigation question whether any committee of Congress, least of all a new one, is equipped to assess scientific undertakings and forestall out-of-control projects. "The magnitude of the job is too great for one small committee to accomplish much unless it builds up a very large and very competent staff," says Chairman Holtfield of the Atomic Energy Committee. Chairman Miller of the House Space unit agrees. "If they know where to obtain the scientific know-how for such a study, I wish they'd come tell me. That's been our problem all along—finding men who know science to give an impartial evaluation of research proposals."

Against this stiff opposition, backers of the investigation reckon they stand no better than an even chance of getting full House approval. But even if defeated, they think their proposal is establishing House sentiment for tighter legislative reins on the research agencies. Already, an advocate notes, a newly formed House Armed Services subcommittee has announced plans for an investigation of military research and development expenditures.

Some House Space Committee members, moreover, look favorably toward a Senate-passed bill setting up a Federal commission on science and technology. The panel, to be composed of an equal number of legislators, Administration science men and outside science experts, would look for ways to foster better coordination among Government agencies and would assess whether scientific talent and facilities are being used to best advantage.

The House Committee has previously paid little heed to the Senate bill. But Chairman Miller will tell the Rules Committee tomorrow that such a "pretense" panel would stand a much better chance of attracting needed talent than would a House committee seeking staff members.

Proponents of the House investigation say they've done enough spade work already to show a strong need for some action soon. One Democratic backer had compiled a roster that lists 14 Federal agencies, ranging from the Agriculture Department to the Federal Aviation Agency, which currently get funds for the study of meteorology. Another eight Government units, he says, are conducting water surveys, while seven administer oceanographic research projects. "There may be some justification for all these separate programs, but it's certainly worth our time to find out what it is," remarks one advocate.

Speech Prepared, Documents Circulating

A western Republican displays a "privately circulated" Air Force document listing \$177 million in new NASA spending requests, that, the Air Force claims, duplicate existing military research programs. And the Rules Committee chairman Smith is said to have prepared a 24-page speech bristling with illustrations of alleged waste of Federal research funds.

And from bipartisan, concertedly, research conduct and results, there are a variety of other motives behind demands for an in-

## Lockheed Unit Receives \$27,238,570 Contract

Hoffman Electronics Corp. Gets \$2,621,960 Award From Navy For Radio Transmitter Sets

By a WALL STREET JOURNAL Staff Reporter  
WASHINGTON—Lockheed Aircraft Corp.'s Missile & Space division, Sunnyvale, Calif., received a \$27,238,570 Navy contract for continued engineering services in connection with the Polaris missile program.

Other defense awards:  
—Hoffman Electronics Corp., Los Angeles, \$2,621,960 for 208 radio transmitting sets to be installed aboard Navy ships.

—Sanders Associates, Inc., Nashua, N.H., \$2,360,342 for "classified" electronic equipment for Western Electric Co., New York, the manufacturing affiliate of American Telephone & Telegraph Co., \$1,336,800 for electrical engineering work on an overseas communication system.

## Amplex Corp. Contract

By a WALL STREET JOURNAL Staff Reporter  
Amplex Corp., Redwood City, Calif., said it received a \$2.5 million contract for high-potential instrumentation recorders to be used at the Air Force Atlantic missile range.

Sperry Radcom Co., a division of Sperry Corp., received a \$1.7 million contract from Westinghouse Electric Corp. for aircraft radar equipment.

Investigation For one thing, some Republicans don't conceal their hopes that the study will prove embarrassing to the Administration. The committee, they note, would be due to report its findings to Congress by Sept. 1, 1964—just two months before national elections.

Also, many lawmakers are piqued at what they see as "pork barrel" use of research funds. Location of NASA's manned space flight center in Houston, home of Democrat Rep. Thomas who heads the House Appropriations subcommittee that votes the space agency its money, still irks many, so does the fact that approximately one-third of NASA's \$3.7 billion budget in the year ended June 30 went to California space contractors. Grants to universities for medical research, construction of new laboratories and for basic research in physics, chemistry, biology and other fields aren't broadly enough distributed to suit others. These grants exceed \$1 billion annually. According to one tabulation, 38% of the funds go to only 10 institutions.

"I want a thorough investigation to show the extent to which smelly politics control the allocation of research dollars," declares a Midwestern Democrat.

## Commercial Credit Co. and Subsidiaries Balance Sheet as of June 30

	1963	1962
Total assets	\$2,397,293,217	\$2,212,212,181
Fixed & other assets	85,063,220	82,292,741
Cash	74,457,112	81,147,226
Securities	12,279,623	12,145,745
Investments	2,265,113	1,005,607
Short term debt	1,005,814,009	873,482,000
Long term debt	723,500,000	728,500,000
Capital surplus	1,259,121	787,218
Retained surplus	111,254,815	204,057,814
Other paid up, \$100 par	271,243	271,248
Common shares	10,622,809	10,622,809

## Reynolds & Co. to Buy Washington Broker Firm

By a WALL STREET JOURNAL Staff Reporter  
NEW YORK — Reynolds & Co., a New York Stock Exchange member firm, said it plans to acquire Rouse, Brewer, Becker & Bryant, Inc., another Exg Board member firm based in Washington, D.C.

The acquisition is scheduled to be completed Sept. 3, Reynolds said. The purchase would give Reynolds 20 U.S. offices. In May, Reynolds purchased 25 offices of A. M. Kidder & Co., which left the securities business.

## Sterchi Bros. Sales

STERCHI BROTHERS STORES, INC. reports sales for the months ended June 30:

June	1963	1962
Five months	\$1,272,156	\$1,262,436
Same months	1,247,156	1,092,741
Same months	—	855,563

## THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

Monday, August 12, 1963

Colonial Sand & Stone Co. reports for the months ended June 30:

June	1963	1962
Five months	\$24,776,391	\$26,820,427
Same months	24,776,391	27,114,398
Same months	—	1,251,398

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